



## Maine Forest Resource Fact Sheet 2020

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### Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

| Program                              | FY 2019 Final      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cooperative Fire Protection          | \$903,068          |
| Cooperative Forestry                 | \$424,444          |
| Forest Health Management             | \$213,000          |
| Forest Legacy and Community Forestry | \$447,500          |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$1,988,012</b> |

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

### Key Issues

- Keep forests as forests.
- Improve and diversify markets.
- Protect forests from harm.
- Maintain healthy trees and woodlands in urban and community areas.
- Maintain the capacity of the Maine forest.
- Increase the environmental literacy of Maine citizens.
- Maintain and enhance forest biodiversity.

### Forest Facts and Accomplishments

| Selected Facts                                    | Value      | FY 2019 Accomplishments  | Value     |
|---|------------|--|-----------|
| Population  | 1,328,361  | Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance                             | 9,321     |
| Acres of Forest Land                              | 17,502,904 | Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans                             | 15,504    |
| Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land        | 12,082,000 | Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans | 9,993     |
| Number of NIPF Landowners                         | 252,000    | Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted  | 95        |
| Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection | 0          | State Fire Communities Assisted  | 450       |
| Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection | 1,766,000  | Coop Forest Health Acres Protected   | 0         |
| Number of Rural Fire Departments                  | 419        | Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions   | 0         |
| Cities and Towns                                  | 22         | Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance                               | 186       |
| Forest Based Employment                           | 14,207     | Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance          | 1,017,947 |
| Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)             | 1          | Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance  | 8,045     |
| State Forestry Budget (All Sources)               | 10,450,000 |  |           |

### Program Highlights

#### Cooperative Fire Protection

The Nature Conservancy was awarded one competitive State Fire Assistance grant to implement 60 acres of fuels breaks, 385 acres of prescribed burning, firefighter training, and development of fire management plans for high wildfire risk pine barrens areas in Maine and New Hampshire. Maine acquired \$554,789 in property from the Federal Excess Personal Property program. The property is used to support the state's and volunteer fire departments' wildland fire programs.

#### Forest Health Protection

Severe defoliation from the noxious browntail moth was documented in the Midcoast and Downeast regions, however there were localized collapses of browntail moth in several areas due to fungal outbreaks. Emerald ash borer was detected in York and Cumberland counties. Infestations of the beetle are now in extreme northern and southern Maine. Biocontrol releases to control winter moth continued in Boothbay Harbor. White pine needle damage and red pine decline continued as also reported in neighboring states.

#### Forest Stewardship

Maine's Be Woods Wise/WoodsWISE Incentives Program developed 137 new or continuing forest stewardship plans (including plans under Conservation Activity Plan Code 106, funded through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program) covering 15,504 acres, of which 9,993 acres were in spatially defined Important Forest Areas. About 5,940 woodland owners took part in educational programs offered by the Maine Forest Service to encourage the sound, long-term management of Maine's forest resources. Maine

Forest Stewardship personnel assisted 3,381 individuals with forest stewardship.

**Urban and Community Forestry**

Project Canopy funded 14 Urban and Community Forestry grants in 2019. Grants to Augusta, Bridgton, Greenville, Norway, and Bath are enhancing downtown revitalization projects by planting trees suited to Maine's climate. Pittsfield, Rockport, Belfast, and Kennebunk are replacing trees along their entry gateways, focusing on drawing visitors to these tourist destinations. These projects also incorporate techniques to increase tree survival, such as using tree trenches, structural soils, and smart stormwater design. Project Canopy helped collect data that resulted in a management plan to prioritize removal of oak trees most damaged by browntail moth in Freeport.



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